

June 30, 1942.

Mr. Ellis Nicolet,
Cimarron, Kansas.

Dear Ellis:

Pardon my delay in answering your good letter of the 22nd instant. I assure you that I did not misunderstand your letter, but there are so many coaches in the country that picture college life nothing but a succession of sports and games that I wanted to be sure that I would not do so.

I believe you when you say that your greatest ambition and purpose is to become a good student and successful man after you graduate. Of course, it is perfectly natural, too, to expect that you want to be a fine athlete and there is no reason why you should not fulfill those dreams. Athletics introduce the individual to society and business, but it is the brains and the personality plus the incentive that causes a man to make good in later years.

You are right. A great deal of appreciation should be shown to the parents who see you through. I am glad that your grades are of such high order, and all of that is in your favor, of course.

Regarding your basketball ability, I am quite sure that you will be able to make the varsity because most of my boys who play on my varsity are boys who come from small Kansas towns. If you have the incentive to train and to study, then I am sure that the boy with more than ordinary ability, as you have, can make it.

Now, another thing. It is not necessary to make the team to hold your job. We have many boys on our working force now who started out but did not continue because their studies got tough, and they were fine prospects. I did not cut them off the squad. I have never cut a man off the squad unless he breaks training, and then I am very reasonable in giving him another chance if he really wants to make good.

I am taking the matter up with the Department of Journalism and asking them to send you the necessary information and any special pamphlets they have which might interest you.

With all good wishes, and anticipating the pleasure of your enrolling at the University, I am

Very cordially yours,

Director of Physical Education,
Varsity Basketball Coach.

FCA:AH